



Attorney Docket No. 14991.01
Confirmation No. 3347
Customer No. 37833

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE PATENT APPLICATION OF:

APPLICANT : **ROBERT W. JONES**

APPL. NO. : **10/751,510**

ART UNIT : **1723**

FILED : **January 6, 2004**

EXAMINER : **J. DRODGE**

FOR : **GUTTER FOAM FILTER**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

I, RICHARD C. LITMAN, declare that:

1. I am a registered patent attorney and the CEO of the firm Litman Law Offices, Ltd.
2. On or about March 19, 2003 a disclosure was received at Litman Law Offices, Ltd. from Robert W. Jones for the purposes of having a preliminary patentability search conducted for the subject matter described and claimed in the above-identified patent application. The disclosure included a written description of Mr. Jones' invention, and a

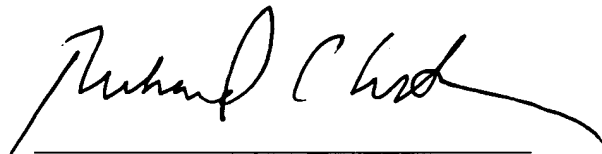
BEST AVAILABLE COPY

model, as evidenced by the copy of the Litman Law Offices Ltd.'s "Confidential Record of Invention & Patent Search Request Form" and a date-stamped routing slip form attached thereto. See attached Exhibit A.

3. The model, which formed a part of Mr. Jones' disclosure, is shown in the three photographs (Fig. 1, Fig. 2, and Fig. 3) attached to this declaration. Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the gutter section with the filter insert in place. Fig. 2 is a side view of the gutter section and filter insert, with one end of the gutter section removed. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the gutter section and filter insert, with one end of the gutter section removed. See attached Exhibit B.

Date: _____

12/19/05



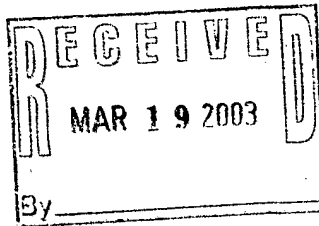
Richard C. Litman
Registration No. 30,868

EXHIBIT A

14991.01

Docket Number

Date Received



LAT

Searcher

CM3

Name: Jones

Amount Paid \$ 450.00 ☒ Check M/C Visa A/E Disc Cash

General Description: Gutter Foam Filter

☒ TABS ☒ TRUST CDS

Key Words: House- Home- Gutter - Filter - Shield- Guard
Protect

Type of Search:

☐ U.S.

☐ Foreign

☒ Combined

☐ Expedited

Comments:

Cross Reference Files:

Photos ☒ Model Blueprints

Date XX Received:

Date XX Completed:

Tickler Number:



Date Report Due:

Litman Law

MAILING ADDRESS:
P.O. Box 15035
Crystal City Station
Arlington, VA 22215

STREET ADDRESS:
Patent Law Building
3717 Columbia Pike
Arlington, VA 22204

INTERNET ADDRESS:
<http://www.4patent.com>
E-MAIL ADDRESS:
litman@4patent.com

Ref No: 14991.01

**CONFIDENTIAL RECORD OF INVENTION
& PATENT SEARCH REQUEST FORM**

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN IT TO US BY MAIL, UPS OR FAX.

INVENTOR INFORMATION

☒ Mr. ☐ Ms. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Dr.

Name: Robert Jones

Occupation: Contractor

Date of Birth: 5-1-56

Mailing Address for search report: 1214 Kelley St. Vienna VA 22180

City: Vienna

State or Province: VA

Zip Code: 22180

Nation: USA

Home Phone: 703-246-9637

Fax Number:

Work Phone: 703-597-5724

Website Address: Bobby Jones & Co. Inc.

E-mail Address:

Best Time to Call: Evening

Are you a first time client? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Street Address (if different than mailing address):

Please list other persons who are authorized to have access to your file information:

CO-INVENTOR INFORMATION

☒ Mr. ☐ Ms. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Dr.

Name: Tom Huston

Occupation: Contractor

Date of Birth: 2-15-62

Street Address: 6021 N. Morgan St.

City: Alex.

State or Province: VA.

Zip Code: 22312

Nation: U.S.A.

Home Phone: 703-354-7454

Work Phone: 703-898-2229

Fax Number: 703-354-5453

E-mail Address:

Best Time to Call: DAYS

Are you a first time client? ☐ Yes ☒ No

**PLEASE LIST ADDITIONAL CO-INVENTORS AND THEIR CONTACT INFORMATION
ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER**

Model

INFORMATION ON YOUR INVENTION

What is the purpose of your invention and who would use it?

THE PURPOSE IS TO FILTER OUT LEAVES, PINE CONES, ACORNS, PINE NEEDLES, DEBRIS, ETC. FROM HOME & BUSINESS GUTTERS FOR HOME & BUSINESS

Describe your invention, including how it functions.

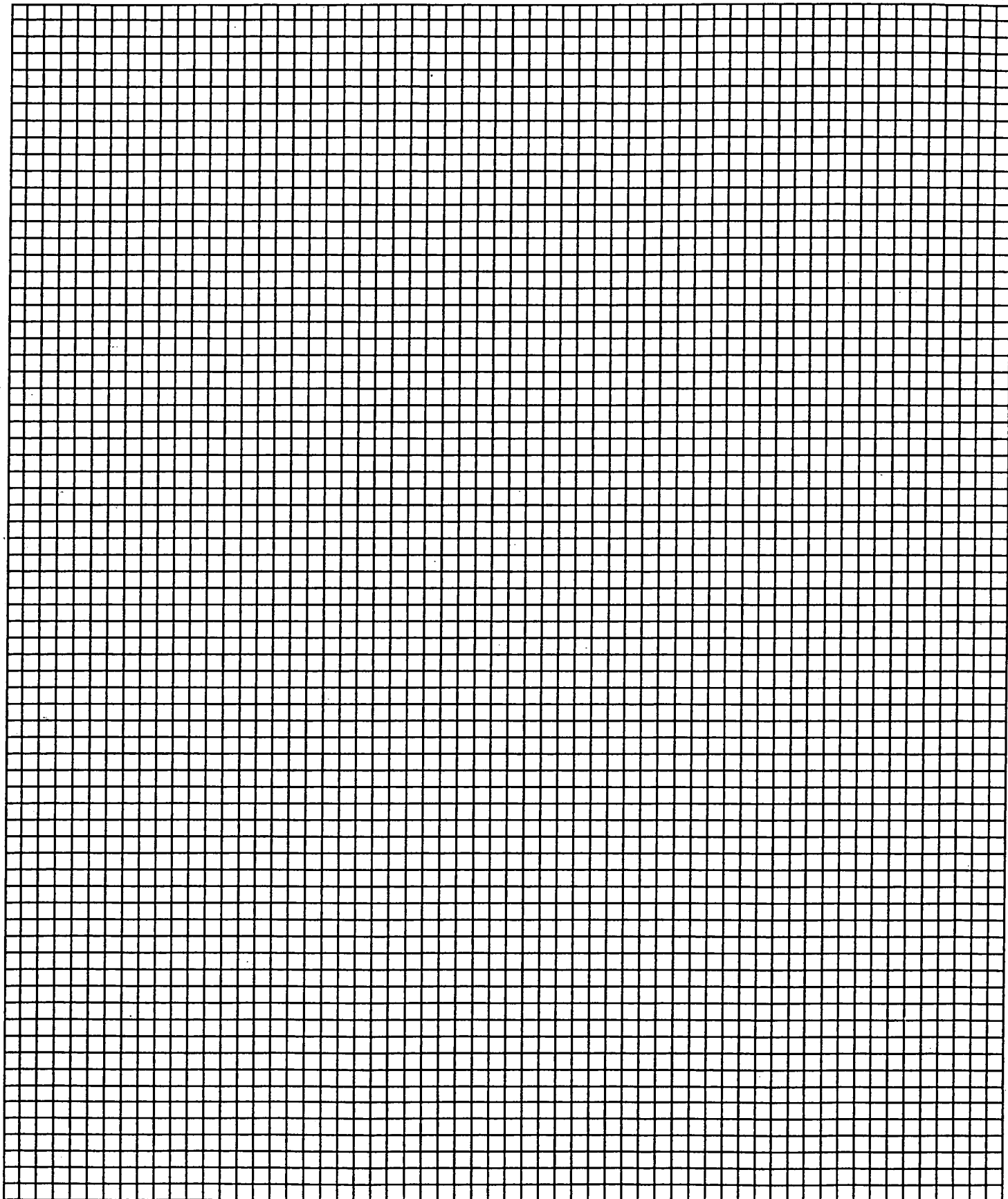
THE INVENTION IS A FOAM FILTER FOR HOME AND BUSINESS GUTTER — FOR RESIDENTIAL OR COMMERCIAL USE. THE FOAM AS A FILTER IS CELLULOSE EXTRUDED TAPERED AT AN ANGLE TO ALLOW EASY PASSAGE FOR WATER THRU THE POURS FOAM AND TO THE DOWNSPOUT. IT FILLS THE GUTTER TOTAL FROM ONE END TO THE OTHER THAT STOPS ALL DEBRIS FROM ENTERING GUTTER WHILE LETTING WATER THRU. IT'S VERY LIGHT WEIGHT AND DURABLE. THE FOAM IS EASY TO INSTALL OR TAKE OUT IN THE EVENT IT NEEDED TO BE CLEANED.

What are the unique features and benefits of your invention?

IT IS EXTRUDED FOAM (POLY-ETHER) 10-20 CELLS PER SQ. INCH. BLACK IN COLOR. IT FILL THE GUTTER FROM TOP TO BOTTOM AND END TO END. IT IS SUPPORTED IN THE BACK @ THE BOTTOM OF THE GUTTER, CUT AT ANGE ON THE FRONT SIDE OF GUTTER TO ALLOW AN EMPTY SPACE FOR WATER TO PASS TO DOWNSPOUT.

SKETCHES & DRAWINGS

Please provide a rough sketch of your invention. Feel free to attach photographs or other drawings of your invention. ***Models should only be sent if specifically requested.***



PATENT SEARCH REQUEST

This record of invention should be sent to our law firm. It will be evidence of your date of invention. A professional evaluation and preliminary search of available patents at the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office (PTO) is the next step.

At Litman Law Offices, Ltd., the patent search and legal evaluation includes:

- A preliminary search of patent disclosures available at the PTO;
- Use of Internet and PTO resources to conduct the search;
- Consultation with Patent Examiners, as needed, about the field of search;
- A search report with recommendations by a registered patent attorney;
- Copies of patent disclosures considered relevant to your invention;
- Completion typically within ten to fifteen business days; and
- A follow up consultation with a registered patent attorney or agent, at no additional charge.

SERVICES & FEES

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent Search Report and Copies of Relevant Patent Disclosures	\$450.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Expedited Service (completion within five [5] business days)	+ \$200.00

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE

450.00

METHOD OF PAYMENT

<input type="checkbox"/> DISCOVER	Name on Card:	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal/Company Check
<input type="checkbox"/> VISA	Card Number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cashier's Check/Money Order
<input type="checkbox"/> MASTERCARD	Expiration Date:	AMOUNT ENCLOSED:
<input type="checkbox"/> AMEX	Signature:	

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **LITMAN LAW OFFICES, LTD.**

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICES

Litman Law

MAILING ADDRESS:
P.O. Box 15035
Crystal City Station
Arlington, VA 22215

STREET ADDRESS:
Patent Law Building
3717 Columbia Pike
Arlington, VA 22204

INTERNET ADDRESS:
<http://www.4patent.com>
E-MAIL ADDRESS:
litman@4patent.com

Application No.: 10/751,510
Art Unit: 1723

Attorney Docket No.14991.01
Confirmation No.3347

EXHIBIT B

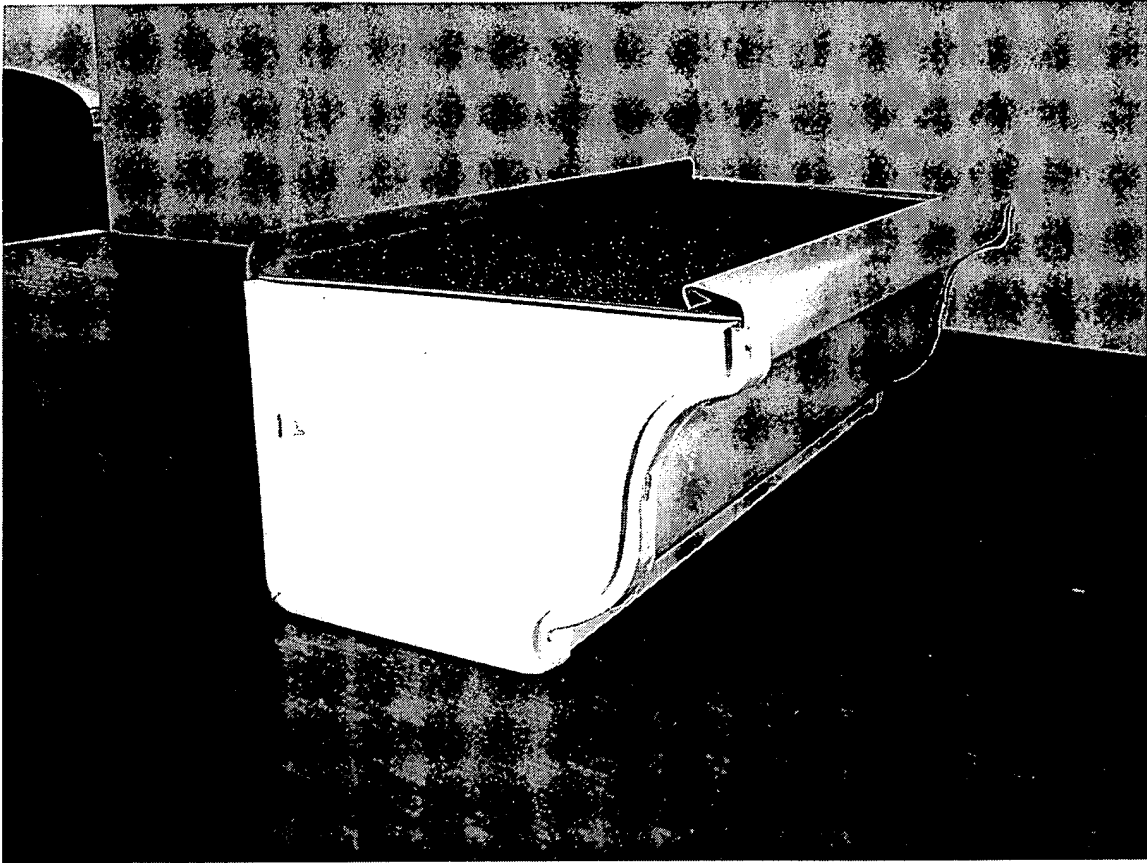


FIG. 1

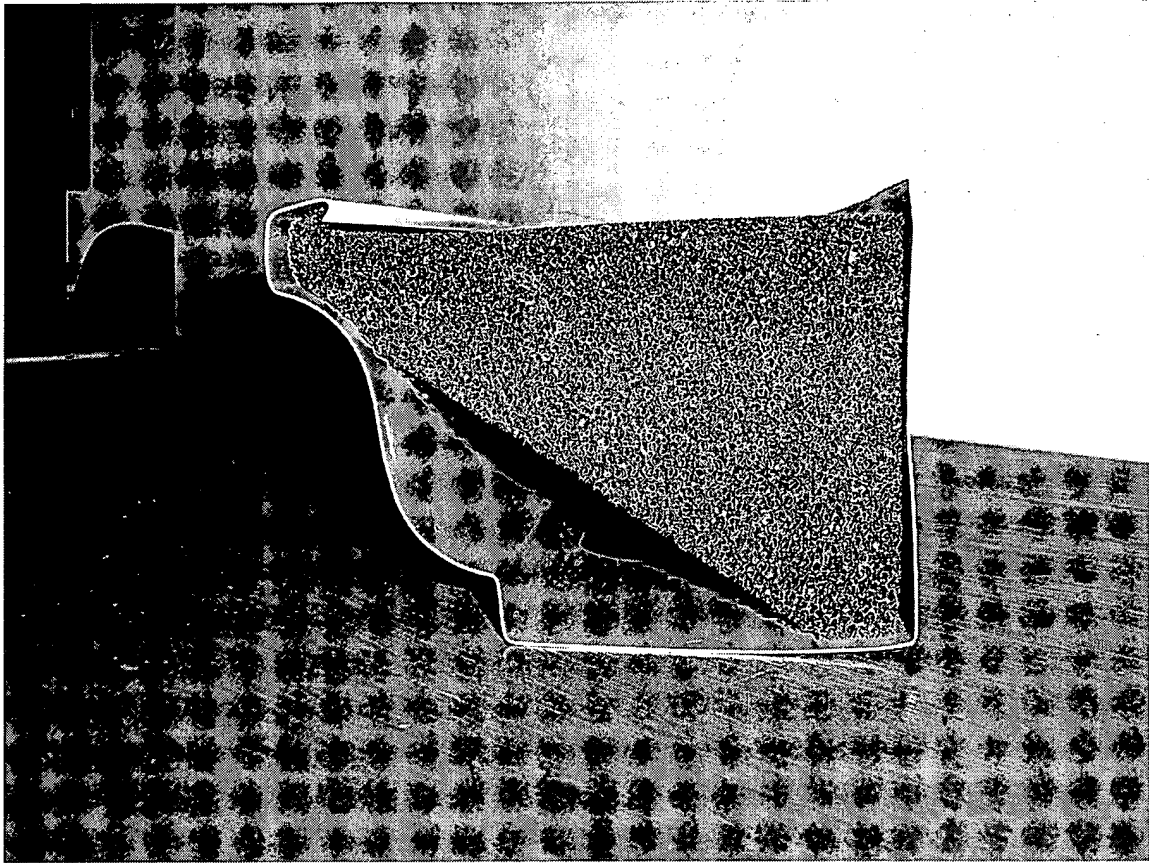


FIG. 2

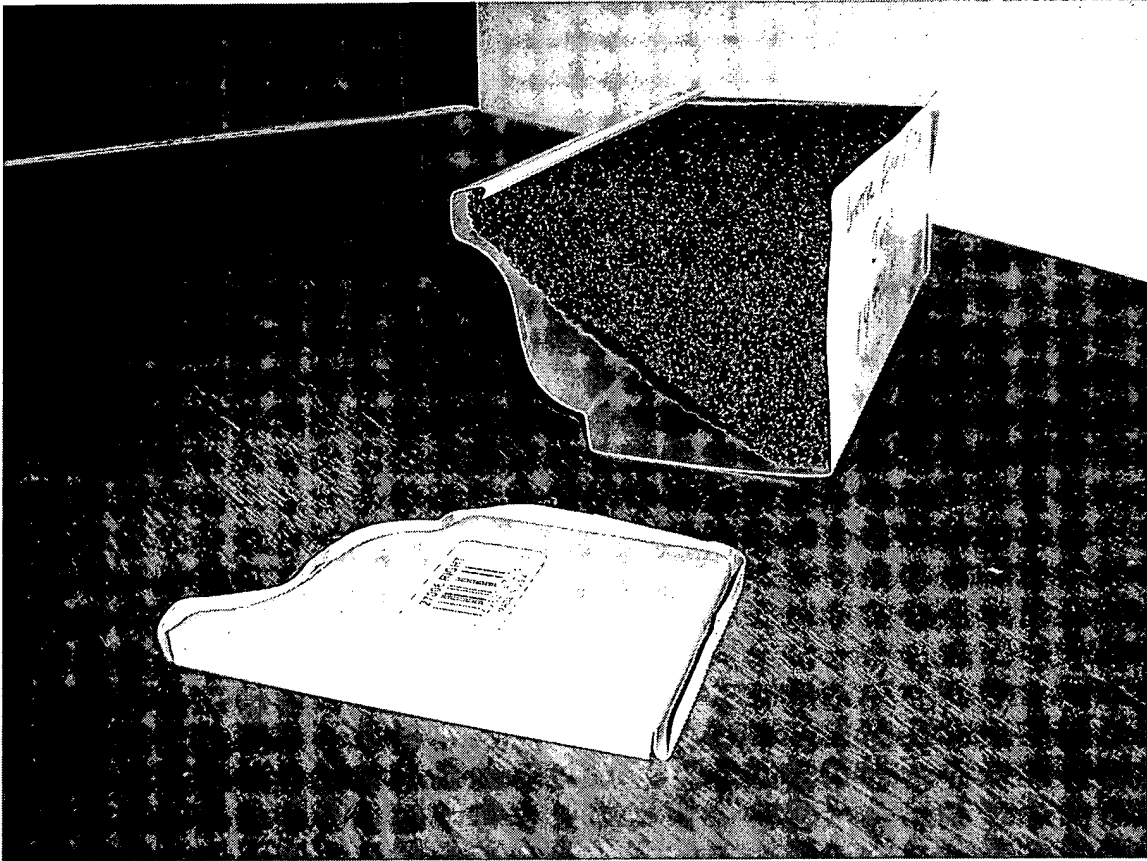


FIG. 3

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

☒ **BLACK BORDERS**

☐ **IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES**

☐ **FADED TEXT OR DRAWING**

☒ **BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING**

☐ **SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES**

☐ **COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS**

☐ **GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS**

☐ **LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**

☐ **REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY**

☐ **OTHER:** _____

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.